



Massachusetts National Guard

Public Affairs

50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757

Press Release

POINT OF CONTACT:
Phone: (508) 233-7260
July 1, 2011

SGT Jeremiah Clark
E-mail: jeremiah.clark1@us.army.mil

Guardsmen Concludes Mission to Support Civil Authorities Western, Massachusetts

MILFORD, Mass. – The Massachusetts Army and Air National Guard has been activated since June 1st, providing relief to areas affected by the tornado that left more than 30 miles of western Massachusetts in ruin, leaving 4 dead, displacing many families and destroying multiple homes. In conjunction with state and local responders, upwards of 750 Guardsmen worked to relieve the pressure associated with the aftermath of the tornado.

The Massachusetts National Guard has been coordinating, employing, and controlling forces, resources and capabilities through appropriate commands in order to provide military support to civil authorities, assist civilians, protect critical infrastructure, and facilitate economic recovery following severe weather and tornado impact.

The Massachusetts National Guard has completed 191 total assessments and cleared 21 miles of roadway in seven towns. Guardsmen have set up traffic control points in 56 locations, cleared 523 trees opening up six-and-a-half miles of road, visited 705 residents and transported 46 pallets of water. Guardsmen continue to maintain traffic control points in areas of interest and help at the Mass Mutual Center.

The Massachusetts National Guard has been instrumental in supporting civil authorities throughout the course of the mission, said Domenic J. Sarno, Mayor of Springfield. The response would not have been possible without their help.

“When a disaster hits home, such as the one that hit western Massachusetts June 1, the first military responders will be national guardsmen coming to help their friends and neighbors close by -- they are



Massachusetts National Guard

Public Affairs

50 Maple Street, Milford, MA 01757

woven in the fabric of every small town and city,” said Brig. Gen. Paul G. Smith, The Assistant Adjutant General, Massachusetts Army National Guard.

###